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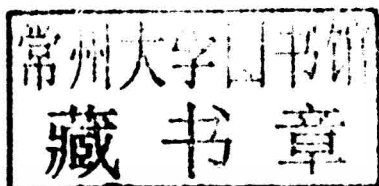
Edited by
Carl Grodach and Daniel Silver



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First published 2013

by Routledge

2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 4RN

Simultaneously published in the USA and Canada

by Routledge

711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

First issued in paperback 2014

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business

© 2013 editorial matter and selection: Carl Grodach and

Daniel Silver; individual chapters: the contributors

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

The politics of urban cultural policy/[edited by] Carl Grodach and Daniel Silver.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Urban policy. 2. Cultural policy. 3. City planning.

I. Silver, Daniel.

HT151.P578 2013

307.76-dc23

2012013647

ISBN 978-0-415-68378-4 (hbk)

ISBN 978-1-138-88715-2 (pbk)

ISBN 978-0-203-08877-7 (ebk)

Typeset in Times New Roman

by Florence Production Ltd, Stoodleigh, Devon

The Politics of Urban Cultural Policy

The Politics of Urban Cultural Policy brings together a range of international experts to critically analyze the ways that governmental actors and non-governmental entities attempt to influence the production and implementation of urban policies directed at the arts, culture, and creative activity. Presenting a global set of case studies that span five continents and 22 cities, the essays in this book advance our understanding of how the dynamic interplay between economic and political context, institutional arrangements, and social networks affect urban cultural policymaking and the ways that these policies impact urban development and influence urban governance. The volume comparatively studies urban cultural policymaking in a diverse set of contexts, analyzes the positive and negative outcomes of policy for different constituencies, and identifies the most effective policy directions, emerging political challenges, and most promising opportunities for building effective cultural policy coalitions.

The volume provides a comprehensive and in-depth engagement with the political process of urban cultural policymaking and urban development with cases from around the world. It will be of interest to students and researchers interested in Urban Planning, Urban Studies, and Cultural Studies.

Carl Grodach is an Associate Professor at the University of Texas Arlington, USA. His research, which focuses on the urban development impacts of cultural planning and policy has most recently been published in the *Community Development Journal*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, and *Journal of Urban Affairs*.

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Acknowledgments

We warmly thank the contributors to this volume for their patience and efficiency in handling queries and in re-drafting their contributions as well for their anonymous reviews of each other's initial drafts. The incisive character of this feedback greatly improved the overall quality of the book. We would also like to thank the two anonymous reviewers for their helpful comments on our initial proposal for this book and for seeing its potential. We are grateful to John Hannigan for providing critical commentary on the introduction. Most of all, we thank Zachary Hyde for invaluable and stalwart assistance in editing the chapters and in preparing the manuscript for press.

Carl Grodach and Daniel Silver

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Introduction

Urbanizing cultural policy

Carl Grodach and Daniel Silver

A new mayor sends mime troupes to direct traffic in chaotic Bogotá intersections as agents of renewed civic order; an old one builds postmodern sculpture, indie rock festivals, and flower gardens to spearhead Chicago's post-industrial recovery agenda; blue-haired artists from European cultural capitals such as Berlin and Paris to traditional cultural backwaters such as Toronto write urban development manifestos; arts and cultural industry organizations from New York to Austin to Wollongong, Australia struggle with city officials and real estate interests over zoning, land use regulations, and definitions of "creative" economic development; the government of Seoul receives a UNESCO award for heritage preservation and attracts tourists with new cultural amenities while violently evicting residents from their homes. These are just a few of the most dramatic cases of what has become a new normal in cities around the globe as cultural policy issues have been thrust into the center of urban politics, and vice versa.

Yet, until relatively recently, formal cultural policy was primarily a national-level concern, focused on the promotion and protection of national heritage, the fine arts, and, at times, cultural diversity. Federal ministries of culture, with varying levels of interaction with private and nonprofit entities, administer financial support for artists and arts organizations, finance historic preservation, initiate copyright protection laws, and oversee vast national archives and survey museums such as the Smithsonian or Louvre. A sizable body of scholarship exemplified by the work of Bradford et al. (2000), Cherbo et al. (2008), Miller and Yúdice (2002), and others has captured the shifting nature and key conflicts surrounding cultural policy, but has not explicitly situated culture as an urban policy issue.

However, over the last three decades we have witnessed the rise of a specifically *urban* form of cultural policy. Early, pioneering work by Franco Bianchini and Michael Parkinson (1993), Allen Scott (2000), Sharon Zukin (1982, 1995), John Hannigan (1998), and others began to capture the importance of symbolic and aesthetic factors in driving urban economic development by concentrating on strategies ranging from flagship museums and redeveloped waterfronts to artistic and cultural employment districts. This work has been crucial in advancing our understanding of the role cultural